

## **Vestry Policy on Photography at the Liturgy**

During the celebration of liturgies, photographs (either still or video) may be taken by one designated photographer without flash or floodlights from one position in the church behind the congregation, after consultation with the priest celebrating the liturgy.

Other persons are invited to take photographs following the liturgy after the congregation has left and are most welcome to use the church as the setting for their pictures. However, the sacredness of the Altar and sanctuary (the designated area surrounding the Altar) as well as the consecrated church as a whole must always be respected, and no appointments (church furnishings) may be handled or moved.

It is realized that the perimeters set for photography during liturgies do not create ideal conditions for the designated photographer, but the Episcopal Church feels that the Sacraments and the needs of the congregation gathered must take precedence during the actual celebration of the liturgy.